

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 1501

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FOR GARRISON FROM MATLOCK

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OGEN
SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. IF YOU ARE IN CONTACT WITH THE AMBASSADOR, PLEASE CHECK TO SEE IF WE CAN RE-CONFIRM TO AIR FORCE HIS MARCH 3 DATE FOR LONDON-MOSCOW FLIGHT.
2. WHAT IS STATUS OF OUR RECOMMENDATIONS ON PERSONNEL SHIFTS? WOULD LIKE ANSWER ASAP SINCE IT MAKES NO SENSE TO TRAIN WEISZ IN CONSULAR DUTIES IF HE IS TO MOVE IMMEDIATELY TO ECON.
3. WHERE DOES KURSCH RE-ASSIGNMENT STAND? THERE IS GREAT INTEREST HERE IN PROMPT AND APPROPRIATE RESOLUTION AND IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO MORALE IF I COULD ANNOUNCE CONCRETE NEWS ASAP. (I SAW DON IN FRANKFURT LAST FRIDAY AND SUGGESTED HE CALL SHERROD SINCE HE WAS FEELING A BIT LEFT OUT WITH NO NEWS AT ALL.)
4. RE STATE 22947, PARA 1: WE SENT 1977 VISA STATISTICS UNDER DOVER OF MOSCOW A-09 DATED JANUARY 13, 1978. COPY BEING POUCHED DIRECTLY TO SOV.
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PAGE 02 MOSCOW 01501 311626Z

5. FOR LEN WILLEMS: RE PHOTO OF VILIS HAZNERS YOU SENT TO CLIFF GROSS UNDER COVER OF ROUTINE SLIP OF JANUARY 5, CLIFF BELIEVES THAT ONE OF THE TWO PHOTOS HE SENT PER MOSCOW 674 IS EITHER IDENTICAL OR SIMILAR. WE ASSUME THEREFORE THAT THERE IS NO LONGER ANY NEED TO ASK MFA TO CHECK THE PHOTO WITH HAZERS' FILE IN

SOVIET ARCHIVES. LET US KNOW IF OTHERWISE.

6. STATE 20457 TRANSMITTED A LETTER FOR SOVIET LEADER OF "MARINE MAMMALS" PROJECT (02.05-61) UNDER THE ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT, WHICH APPEARED TO CONTAIN A SERIOUS IMBALANCE IN ACCESS TO INSTITUTIONS AND TO GEOGRAPHIC AREAS. WE HAVE NOT TRANSMITTED LETTER TO THE SOVIETS, BUT WE HAVE RELAYED THE MOST URGENT SECTIONS OF THE MESSAGE OVER THE PHONE. WE ARE CONCERNED THAT U.S. PROJECT LEADERS APPEAR TO BE MAKING COMMITMENTS TO HOST SOVIETS IN SAN DIEGO AND ALASKA, WITHOUT SECURING RECIPROCAL COMMITMENTS FROM THEIR SOVIET COLLEAGUES TO ALLOW VISITS TO AREAS OF INTEREST HERE. U.S. PROJECT LEADER RATHER TEPIDLY REQUESTS VISITS TO MARINE MAMMAL RESEARCH INSTITUTES IN MAGADAN AND VLADIVOSTOK, BUT IN VIEW OF PAST EXPERIENCE THESE PROBABLY WILL BE DIFFICULT TO ARRANGE. U.S. MIGHT HAVE BETTER CHANCE OF SUCCESS IF WE COULD LINK PROGRAM IN SAN DIEGO TO ONE IN VLADIVOSTOK OR MAGADAN. THE 02.05 WORKING GROUP HAS EXPERIENCED REPEATED PROBLEMS OF ACCESS TO THE REMOTE AREAS OF THE SOVIET UNION (STATE 18635 AND MOSCOW 202 NOTED SOME OF THESE PROBLEMS). IN THE PRESENT INSTANCE SOVIETS HAVE APPARENTLY REJECTED U.S. REQUEST TO HOLD WORKING GROUP MEETING IN BAIKAL AREA. EVEN THOUGH THE WORKING GROUP DOES NOT INCLUDE AREAS OF MAJOR TECHNOLOGICAL IMPORTANCE, U.S. SHOULD STILL ATTEMPT TO SECURE BETTER CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 MOSCOW 01501 311626Z

BALANCE OF ACCESS IN THIS WORKING GROUP AS IS CALLED FOR IN RECENT NSC DIRECTIVE. WE PLAN TO DISCUSS THIS ISSUE WITH ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT EXECUTIVE SECRETARY SHOSTAL AND PROJECT LEADER HALES DURING THEIR FEBRUARY 1-8 VISIT TO THE USSR, AND WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR YOU TO URGE THAT U.S. PROJECT LEADERS PAY MORE ATTENTION TO PROBLEMS OF RECIPROCITY WHEN THEY FORMULATE PROPOSALS FOR THEIR SOVIET COLLEAGUES.
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